

Prescott National Forest

Bradshaw Ranger District 928 443-8000 http:\\www.fs.fed.usda.gov\prescott



E CROSS L TRAIL #281

GENERAL INFORMATION: E Cross L Trail #281 lies within ponderosa pine forest in a remote corner of the Bradshaw Mountains. Much of TR 281 travels along Ash Creek drainage where the creek bottom is lined with riparian plants that take advantage of intermittent spring flows. The northern end of the trail climbs Ash Creek Ridge, from which there are panoramic views of Crook's Canyon and Mt. Union.

Travelers should plan enough time to visit the old Palace Station, just beyond the trailhead on Senator Highway. Now a Forest Service administrative and information site, Palace Station served until approximately 1910 as a stage stop, about half-way on the route between Prescott and Crown King.

CAUTION: This trail is open to hikers, horseback riders and mountain bicyclists. Please be considerate of others—slow down and know when to yield the trail.

ACCESS AND TRAILHEAD LOCATION: Take Senator Highway (also FR 52) south from Prescott for 16.9 miles, through the community of Groom Creek, to the junction with County Road 58 (also Poland Road). Bear right to remain on Senator Highway and continue another 4.2 miles to the trailhead, on the right.

TRAVEL TIME: 1 hour from Prescott

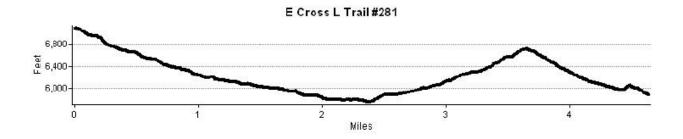
ROAD CONDITIONS: High-clearance is recommended for portions of FR 52. 4WD may be necessary in wet conditions.

HIKING TIME: 3 hours, one-way LENGTH: 5.1 miles DIFFICULTY: Difficult USE: Light

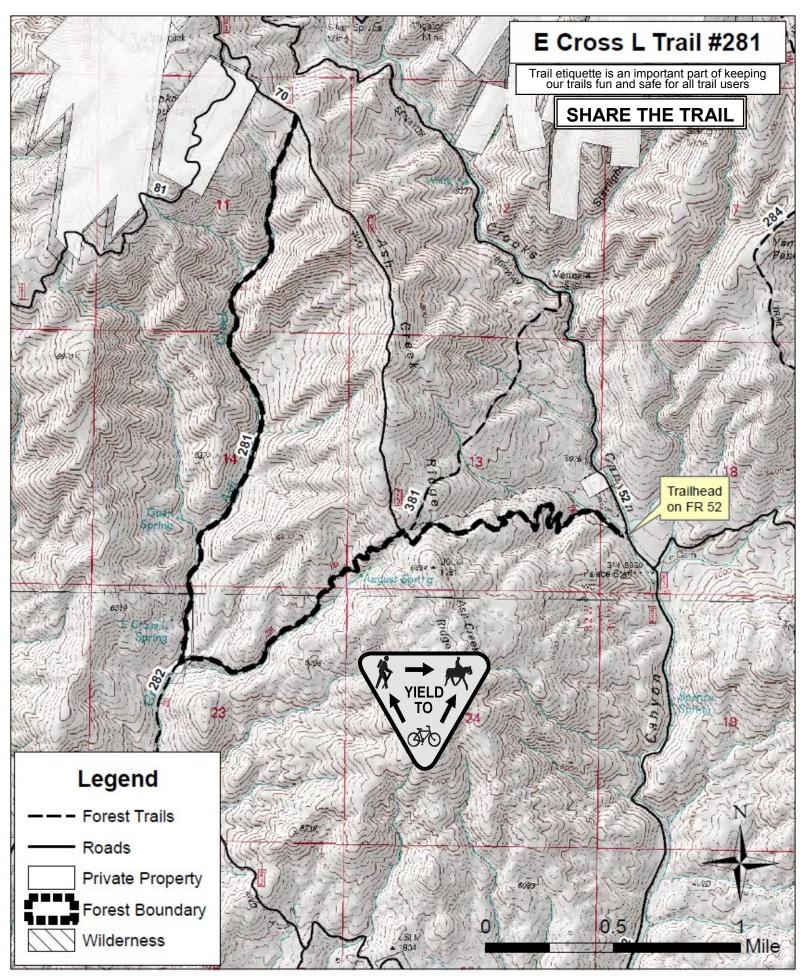
NOTES: The southeast portion of the trail lies in an area that burned in a 2007 fire. Be aware of unstable logs or limbs, particularly on windy days. There is no reliable drinking water available along this trail.

RECOMMENDED SEASONS OF USE: Spring, summer, fall

MAPS, OTHER RESOURCES: Prescott National Forest Map, west half; U.S.G.S. topographic 7.5' quads for Battleship Butte and Groom Creek, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map, Bradshaw Mountains.



March 3, 2014



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